

Fort Worth Engineer Charges Levees Are Blown By Dynamiter

SEVENTEEN ARE PROBABLY DEAD IN FLOOD AREA

Property Damage in Texas Town Is Placed at Million Dollars.

WATER LEVEL WITH ROOFS OF HOUSES

Mississippi River Stage New Orleans Goes One Tenth Foot More.

PORT WORTH, Tex., April 25.—John J. McCain, Fort Worth city engineer, issued a statement tonight in which he declared that the levees around the rivers, which broke here early today and flooded lowlands of this city, were dynamited by unknown parties and that an investigation by a grand jury would be demanded immediately.

"It is our opinion that the levee did not break of its own accord, but was dynamited and as soon as the situation is relieved we are going to place the facts before the grand jury and demand an investigation," McCain declared.

This decision is based on a report made to me by John J. Lyden, chief supervisor and a member of the levee board for the last 12 years, in which he declared he had men patrolling the levee all Monday night and all day Tuesday and early it was his opinion that the levee was dynamited.

"We are not placing the blame upon any one but we are going to place the facts before the grand jury."

SEVENTEEN ARE PROBABLY DEAD IN THE TEXAS FLOOD

PORT WORTH, Tex., April 25.—Seventeen probably dead and severely damaged estimated at approximately \$1,000,000 is the toll of a flood which swept Fort Worth today, carrying before it scores of residences and small buildings, overflowing hundreds of acres of land and inundating several city streets.

The estimate of possibly 17 dead was made by Maj. L. O. White in charge of Red Cross relief.

The flood was confined chiefly to the lowlands adjoining the tributaries of the Trinity river. Marine, Sycamore, Clearforks and the Trinity river were swollen, overflowing the bottoms nearby.

The flooding in the most severe in the history of the city, according to old time residents. Trinity river stood at 36.7 feet at noon and was still rising. The gauge measured only seven feet. The East First street levee last today, it was believed the water on being released would spread out, losing some of its force.

Coming on the heels of rain, the west wind, and a wind and electrical storm, the flood took scores of people by surprise. The lowlands adjoining Sycamore creek were the first to suffer and at one time water was standing level with the roofs of the residences. Word received. Rescue workers are laboring.

COMMITTEE WILL SUPERIOR COURT SURVEY SCHOOLS' NEEDS IN C. T. V. WAYNESVILLE

Steps Taken Toward Securing Additional Rooms and Repairs as Well.

Asheville's school problem is by means confined to the construction of new buildings. The old schools, many of which are reported in great need of additions and repairs, are also to have attention under the promise given on the board at the time the last successful school bond election was called.

Initial steps to carry out that promise were taken yesterday afternoon when there was appointed a special committee to make an immediate survey of the present public schools.

This committee is instructed to report the results of their investigation in detail to the school advisory board, making recommendations so that suitable action may be taken toward the correction of existing troubles.

This means numerous additions and much renovation.

At Ashland avenue school a lunch room and manual training department were virtually promised some time ago, so that the committee will doubtless find reason to pass favorably upon such additions.

Serving upon this committee are R. J. Sberill, commissioner of public works; W. E. Brooker, superintendent of city schools; Inspector Johnson, overseeing construction of the new schools, and Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, city health officer.

Considerable interest attaches to the proposed investigations, as citizens are attending the present graded schools have registered complaints in numerous cases.

TWO ARMY HEADS PLEAD FOR ARMY FOR EMERGENCY

Weeks and Pershing Would Have Body Capable to Meet Situations.

SUPPLY BILL WILL NOW BE WRITTEN

Pershing Says Casualties and Costs Heretofore Unnecessary.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—A plea for a national military policy which would assure the checking of aggression by foreign powers in its incipency and which would avoid confusion, disorder, delay and extravagance, when emergencies arise, was made today by Secretary Weeks and General Pershing before a senate committee in support of the war department program for an army of 13,000 officers and 120,000 enlisted men.

The statements by the two army heads concluded the public discussion of the annual army supply bill and the appropriations committee, which has charge of it will begin immediately to write the measure.

General Pershing declared that had the United States been adequately prepared, "there is little question that the United States under strong leadership could have prevented the world war altogether." He added that there was no doubt that the war between the states, likewise would never have occurred had the Union been equipped with an army of reasonable size and ready for immediate use.

The army of 115,000 men and 11,000 officers, fixed by the house was considered by Secretary Weeks to be below the safe minimum requirements of the country. He asserted that "unbusiness like" conduct of the military establishment in years gone by was responsible for the expenditure of "unnecessary" billions in America's wars.

"We have entered each war with our national defense system unorganized," Mr. Weeks continued. "This has required an extemporized organization thrown together in great haste and resulting always in excessive expenditure and excessive economic disturbances. In each war, we have consistently adhered to policy of forming a great citizen army to reinforce our small regular establishment."

The process of forming this citizen army has been one of confusion, disorder, delay and extravagance.

In General Pershing's statement regarding the size of the army, he pointed out that human nature has not changed and that "our own experiences should have taught us that the existence of envy, jealousy and hatred can no more be ignored among nations than among individuals."

"We should possess and continue from year to year, said the general, a consistent and well mature plan contemplating definite preliminary preparation and training for its complete development in case of emergency."

"Lack of preparation in all our wars has caused us unnecessary loss of life and has left us staggering under financial burdens."

FLAGSHIP IS ORDERED TO CHINESE WATERS

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Admiral Strauss, commanding the Asiatic fleet, ordered his flagship, the Huron, from the Philippines to Chinese waters on his own initiative, it was said today at the navy department.

HE'D BE A BIG HELP TO THE OLD MAN

By BILLY BORNE

The North Carolina association of Clerks of the Superior court will meet in annual session at Waynesville, July 6-7, according to a decision reached by John H. Cathey, clerk of the Buncombe Superior court and president of the state association today. For several weeks the matter of a meeting place has been the subject of discussion by the clerks and with Asheville and Waynesville in the running a tie vote was recorded.

In an effort to break the tie, President Cathey urged all members who had not voted to do so and with the latest returns the question remained a tie, therefore the president's vote decided the meeting place.

The association numbers as its members the clerks of the Superior court in the respective counties of the state and Mr. Cathey, of Buncombe, has been president for two terms. The clerks take an active interest in court procedure and the state laws. Since the duties of the clerks are so numerous in this state and that they are governed exclusively by the statutes, their meetings are of considerable importance.

The program committee has not finished its work for this year it is stated a speaker of prominence and a man who occupies some place of honor in the state will be secured for the principal address on the opening day, July 6.

A. D. Watts, commissioner of revenue for North Carolina, will discuss the state inheritance tax laws and W. S. Stevens, of Johnson county will discuss the relation of the clerks of the Superior court to the colored race. Mr. Johnson, who has held office "since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," and whose period of public service as clerk of the Superior court is excellent by Judge Pace, of Hendersonville, is known as "Uncle Bill" and his presence at this year's meeting has been assured.

BOMBS THROWN AT TWO MILLS IN PAWTUCKET

Little Damage, But Great Excitement, Is Caused By Explosions.

PAWTUCKET, R. I., April 25.—The citizens of Pawtucket started tonight at 10 o'clock and again at 11 o'clock by two had explosions heard throughout the city since the inception of the strike against the 20 per cent wage cut.

The second explosion was at the Spinning company plant about two feet long was the first clue. The police found that a bomb had been thrown upon the roof making the noise and breaking a number of windows, but without doing material damage to the machinery within. No one was hurt.

Operatives at this mill have been on strike for 11 weeks and it has been the scene of most of the trouble in this city since the inception of the strike.

M'LEAN WILL SET UP LAND BANK IN NORTH CAROLINA

He and Lever Will Work in Co-operation—Location Not Yet Picked.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Angus Wilton McLean, who gives up his position on the war finance corporation May 17, announced today that he had arranged to establish a joint stock land bank in North Carolina, similar to the one to be set up in Columbia by Asbury F. Lever and others. The capital stock to be \$250,000 to start with and will be increased from time to time as its progress demands. Mr. McLean is not yet ready to make public the location. Several places are under consideration, but no final decision has been reached.

FEDERAL SCHEME TO END STRIKE BEING WROUGHT

Kentucky and Tennessee Are Negotiating Separate Wage Agreements.

HARD COAL PARLEY ON WAGES SUSPENDED

Lewis Says There Will Be no Change in the Policy of Miners.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The government is working on a plan looking to ending of the coal strike, which it will submit soon to both operators and union leaders. It was said today at the White House. Details of the plan were not disclosed but it was said that it does not include federal supervision of the coal industry.

The plan, which now is receiving the attention of President Harding and his advisers, was said to contemplate a permanent solution, if possible, of the basic problems of the industry. Presentation of the plan it was indicated, would be made when a favorable opportunity presents itself.

TWO STATES ARE NOW NEGOTIATING WAGES

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 25.—Negotiation of separate state wage agreements by striking coal miners in Kentucky and Tennessee was announced today by Frank Farrington, Illinois president of the United Mine Workers. Separate wage agreements by local Illinois miners are imminent, he said.

Mr. Lewis stopped for a conference with the officers of District No. 6, while on his way from Indianapolis to Charlestown, W. Va., where tomorrow he will confer with the officers of District No. 17.

NO CHANGE IN POLICY OF MINERS DECLARED

PITTSBURGH, April 25.—There will be no change in the policy of the United Mine Workers of America in the conduct of the national coal strike, said John L. Lewis, international president, here today. Mr. Lewis stopped for a conference with the officers of District No. 6, while on his way from Indianapolis to Charlestown, W. Va., where tomorrow he will confer with the officers of District No. 17.

Mr. Lewis said after a conference with Vice-President E. T. Pagan and Secretary William Hargrett that he was very well satisfied with the progress being made toward the organization of the miners in the extensive Fayette and Westmoreland non-union fields, where his reports showed hundreds of non-union miners had joined in the strike.

Reports that a number of mines in the Fayette-Westmoreland region which had been affected by the strike, resumed operations yesterday, excited much interest in Pittsburgh. Operators declared that they pointed to early resumption in other mines, while union leaders said such defections were always to be expected particularly in the region where the miners had never been on strike.

ANTHRACITE NEGOTIATORS SUSPEND THEIR TALK

NEW YORK, April 25.—Failure of anthracite operators to agree on a program of wage reduction demands today resulted in a temporary suspension of conferences of the joint sub-committee on wage contract negotiations, seeking to end the coal strike. No date was set for the next meeting.

SERIOUS SLOUGH IN LEVEE IS REPORTED

NATCHEZ, Miss., April 25.—A serious slough appeared in the Mississippi levee between Byrne and Buckridge about 11 miles above Newellton, La., today. A creek of about 40 feet long with clear water showing developed. The threatening condition caused great apprehension for a time and men were rushed from adjacent points to combat the new trouble. Late reports from Newellton stated that the levee is now in satisfactory condition.

Engineers stated that all the levees in the fifth Louisiana levee district are holding.

DOZEN CARS STOLEN HERE IN TWO WEEKS

Information which came into the hands of the police with the arrest of the men, they state, tends to lighten the mystery surrounding the disappearance from Asheville in the past two weeks of more than a dozen automobiles, all new, and of a like number in Gastonia. Other points report similar losses.

Evidence in arresting officers, indicates that members of the band picked up automobiles in numerous North Carolina cities, and either altered the identification numbers in private garages which they rented, or else they have been their method here, or else rushed them across the state line to Greenville, Spartanburg or Columbia, where they were altered and sold.

Two automobiles reported stolen several days ago, were found in a private garage on Ashland avenue rented by the band, according to the police. One of the cars was the property of S. M. Alexander, they state. This car was last week reported stolen.

The other automobile, police say, was reported stolen from Gastonia. They assert keys to the garage in which the stolen car was located were found on the person of one of the first four arrested.

DAUGHTERS OF 1812 OPEN ANNUAL CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Daughters of 1812 opened their annual convention here today, most of the time being occupied with reports of the national officers and standing committees. Senator Stanley, of Kentucky, was the chief speaker at the annual banquet of the organization tonight. Officers will be elected tomorrow.

THIRTY-SEVENTH VICTIM IN WALL STREET BLAST

NEW YORK, April 27.—The 37th victim of the Wall Street explosion in 1920 has just died. A doctor's certificate issued for Frederick Davey Soper of Brooklyn gave as the cause of death ailments resulting from injuries received in the disaster.

New Russian Action Tantalizing To Threatening War On Poland; French Grow Restive At Genoa

Lady Aster Declares U. S. May Yet Enter Genoa Meet

Sings Praises of the Associated Press at Meeting Held at New York—Defends Position of Women in Politics.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Lady Aster, leading editor and publisher of the "United States" today at the annual luncheon of The Associated Press, that America would yet join the conference at Genoa.

"I believe America can show the world," she exclaimed, "that it is not a nation of cowards and a nation of slaves." She stopped to apologize for her recent remarks against the bonus, saying, "I forgot I was a British member of parliament and I spoke as a Virginian. I seem to have worried some people who had a 'but perhaps these people are not fifty-fifty like I am.'"

Touching on politics, she said: "I suppose many of you are despatched to get agents to come into politics and I don't blame you, I am sorry for you, I think sooner or later you will see that we are perfectly right to want to come into public life."

SOVIET FORCES NOW ARE MASSES ON POLISH LINE

Poland Told Her Union With Allies in Note May Abrogate Treaty.

FRENCH INTIMATE MAY QUIT MEETING

Dislike the British Interpretation Placed Upon Their Note.

GENOA, April 25.—(By The Associated Press.)—Soviet Russia contributed another sensation to the economic conference today by sending a note of the Polish delegation, insisting against Poland's action in joining with the allied powers in protest against a separate treaty between Russia and Germany. Russia claimed that the peace treaty between herself and Poland covers all relations between the two countries, so that Poland, like Germany, should not participate in the discussion of Russian affairs, even if it is a firm ally of the allies.

The Russian note, which was presented in the conference, has abrogated the treaty signed at Riga on March 18, 1921.

Russia has a strong red army, encamped near the Polish border, and for this reason, the Russian government has refused to accept some of the delegates as equivalent to almost a threat against Poland.

The experts on the Russian question, sitting without the soviet delegates, today compared notes on the new proposals presented by the Russian delegates at yesterday's session, and decided to forward their report to their respective governments. It is expected that when the answers are received from the various capitals the powers will submit counter proposals to the soviet counsels in firm language, in an endeavor to reach a working basis for an accord.

"We cannot stay here forever," said a French delegate tonight. "The French are disturbed over the manner in which the English have interpreted Premier Clemenceau's address. The French spokesman made it clear that all Frenchmen are alarmed over future military adventures of the Russian government, and that M. Poincaré was disquieted. There are certain indications here that France with her dwindling population is fearful of the rapidly increasing German population, which with its mighty Russia, the French attitude toward Russia is described as like that of Japan towards the United States."

Each country wants an organized and powerful neighbor, but does not desire that that neighbor be so strong as to loom up as a possible menace.

"RUSSIANS WILL NOT ACCEPT PARTITIONING"

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Russian plan will never accept the "evident plan of the allies as a basis for partitioning Russia into colonies of the European nations," probably including Germany, Count Ilya Tolstoy declared in an address today. Such an attempt, he added, would bring great danger to the future and he advised American "keep hands off" and recognize any Russian government which will guarantee security to trade, labor, property and personal rights.

Lenine, Stanes of Germany, and Lloyd George, whom Count Tolstoy described as controlling the destiny of Europe, have plans for the settlement of Europe, "aimed at capturing the Russian market" conflicts with Stines' designs on this market to "make enough to pay off the German indemnity."

Meanwhile he added, "Lenine hopes to retain power by selling Russian concessions for loans to bolster up the bolshevik and to permit them yet to take advantage of a Russian revolution toward communism."

"It is this situation," the speaker declared, "which has brought about the Genoa conference. England and France know that if Germany gets the Russian market she will have won the war. So now the plan is to apportion up Russia's great natural resources among the allies and to make her a second India. Britain will get the oil wells, France gets the mines. Germany will be given a share to keep her in the plot, and Lenine will get the loans in exchange for these concessions which will keep the bolshevik in power."

Eighty per cent of the Russian people, he added, were "bitter against the allies and especially against Britain," and this, he warned, "spells great danger for the future."

NORTH CAROLINA BANK MEN ARE IN SESSION

PINEHURST, N. C., April 25.—The 26th annual convention of the North Carolina Bankers association will meet at The Carolina hotel tomorrow morning for a three day session. More than 500 members of the organization will be present, according to indications tonight. The chief address on the first day of the three day meeting will be delivered by Judge C. F. Moore, of New York.

RAID WAS PLANNED IN INITIATION BY KLANSMEN

LOS ANGELES, April 26.—The midnight raid resulting in the killing of Constable M. B. Mosher Saturday night in which Blake E. Shamban, traffic officer of Inglewood, was initiated into the Ku Klux Klan, Shamban testified at the inquest here today into the death of Constable Mosher.

OVER 3,500 HOMELESS IN THE TRINITY VALLEY

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 25.—More than 3,500 persons are homeless and at least 1,500 homes in the Trinity valley between Arlington Heights and Fort Worth, Texas, are inundated, according to advices received by the southwestern division of the American Red Cross here tonight.



NEWS ITEM—An amendment to the federal farm loan act, offered by Representative Will D. Uphaw, of Georgia, would establish branch banks in the capital of each state.